



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
MAJURO, MARSHALL ISLANDS 96961

May 12, 1997

The Honorable Aurelia Brazeal
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State
East Asia and the Pacific
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Ambassador Brazeal:

On behalf of my entire delegation, I want to thank you for hosting the third economic consultations between our governments. In my opinion, the meetings were successful. I enjoyed the opportunity to explain the multiple economic development initiatives underway in the RMI. I hope it was clear that the RMI Government is carefully constructing its development plans in order to maximize all opportunities to spur sustainable economic growth. I was also pleased that representatives from our education and health ministries could join my delegation in order to discuss the vital role which U.S. federal programs play in strengthening the health and education's sectors of the Marshall Islands. As we all know, without a healthy, educated population, the Marshall Islands will never achieve the economic development which both of our nations strive for.


I look forward to working closely with the U.S. Government to address several of the issues raised during the meetings. In particular, I welcome the working group to create a strategic health plan which Mr. Allen Stayman proposed. Perhaps Mr. Stayman could chair the working group since the Department of Interior has responsibility for administering U.S. federal programs in the Marshall Islands. From our side, I would like Ambassador Barry deBrum to take the lead so that the working group can convene in Washington, D.C. as necessary. I hope that this group can consider issues such as: options for the Majuro hospital, funding, eligibility, and participation in the 177 program, changed circumstances, and efforts to build the human and physical infrastructure of the health care system.

I would like to request your assistance with another matter, Ambassador. In the past, the State Department asked the RMI Government to help secure the payments of Dr. Steve Simon's contract. Now that Dr. Simon has been paid, I would like to request your assistance in getting Dr. Simon's data turned over to the RMI Government. Dr. Simon has encrypted

all of his information on the RMI Government's data base in Majuro, and the RMI Government is unable to access the information it has paid for. Despite our requests to turn over the information, Dr. Simon has been unwilling to cooperate. Please let me know if you are able to assist with this request.

When I return to Majuro later this week, I will report to President Imata Kabua that the economic consultations were a success, and that the bilateral friendship continues to grow and mature. I thank you for all you did to help make the meetings a success.

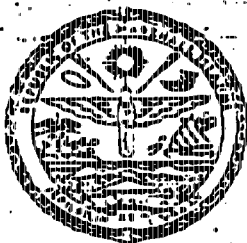
Best Regards,



Phillip Muller
Minister of Foreign Affairs
and Trade

cc : Allen P. Stayman, U.S. Department of Interior
Paul D. Seligman, M.D., M.P.H., U.S. Department of Energy

of to Tim Bell, pls



EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
2433 Massachusetts Ave., Washington D.C. 20001 Telephone: (202) 234-5414 FAX: (202) 233-9236

To:

Paul Seligman

FAX Number:

From:

RMI Embassy

Subject:

Comments:

Date:

Time:

No. of Pages: including this cover page.

Contact: at (202) 234-5414 if there are any problems with this transmission.